Community and educational Radio Stations

1944. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to allow Community and/or educational Radio Stations to be run by universities, IIT/IIMs and other institutions in the country;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions for applying for such Radio Stations; and

(c) the details of applications already received for setting up such stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) On the basis of existing guidelines, the Community Broadcasting licenses can be granted to educational institutions/ organizations, recognized by the Central/State Government, which includes Universities and Institutes of Technology/Management and Residential Schools.

(b) A copy of the guidelines is placed in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to Unstarred Question 1943].

(c) As per the procedure, the applicants are required to send their applications, through the State Government/the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, (authority recognizing these institutions), as the case may be. The following three institutions had sent their applications directly to the Ministry, which have been returned back:

(i) Sri Manakula Vinayagar Engineering College, Pondicherry.

(ii) Mailam Engineering College, Villupuram. (Tamil Nadu).

(iii) Institute of Technology and Management, Gwalior.